

NEW
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 XBOX READER 2
 XBOX TYPESETTER
 QUALITY CHECKER
 SNOOZING SCANS
 XBOX PARADISE 2
 XBOX READER 1
 XBOX
 TRANSLITERATOR 2



&

SNOOZING SCANS
snoozingscans.tumblr.com

CLEANER
 XBOX TYPESETTER
 QUALITY CHECKER
 KI BUTSU
 KI BUTSU
 KI BUTSU

We are in need of SFX typesetters, the final script qcor
 If you are interested, please check out this page:
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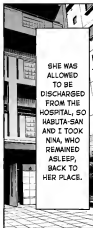
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CHAPTER 22 FORTRESS OF THORNS





SHE WAS
ALLOWED
TO BE
DISCHARGED
FROM THE
HOSPITAL, SO
HABUTA-SAN
AND I TOOK
NINA, WHO
REMAINED
ASLEEP,
BACK TO
HER PLACE.

HER
CONDITION
WAS THEN
CLASSIFIED
AS A
"PERSISTENT
VEGETATIVE
STATE".



THERE
IS STILL
THE
MONEY
PROBLEM

FROM HERE
ON OUT...
ARE THINGS
REALLY
GOING TO BE
ALRIGHT??



...IT'LL
WORK OUT
SOMEHOW

WE CAN'T
TOUCH
MOTHER'S
INHERI-
TANCE.

SO LONG
AS NINA
REMAINS
AS HE,



THREE
MONTHS
HAD
PASSED
SINCE
TAKARA
NINA
WENT
INTO A
COMA.



You got an offer for 'Salome,' right?



BEAUTIFULLY FEARSOME, THE BEWITCHING PRINCESS OF JUDEA WHO WAS YET A VIRGIN, "SALOME".

DEMANDING THE HEAD OF THE OBJECT OF HER AFFECTION AS A REWARD FOR HER DANCING.

OSCAR WILDE'S 'SALOME'...

YES.

IT'S STILL FAR AHEAD THOUGH.



THAT WILL BRING 'TANZARU NINA' CLOSER TO THE SUMMIT OF THE ACTING WORLD.

IF YOU SUCCEED, 'SALOME' MIGHT PROVE TO BE THE KEY.

OUT OF ALL THE ROLES YOU'VE PLAYED UP UNTIL NOW, THIS IS THE ONE THAT CAN BEST PUT YOUR BEAUTY AND FORMIDABLE ACTING ABILITIES TO USE.



AS LONG AS
I POSSESS
HER FACE...



BASICALLY,
I'M SAYING THAT
AS LONG AS YOU
POSSESS NINA'S
FACE, THE PATH
TO SUCCESS
WILL BE
UNHINDERED.

WITH THE
FAME IN
YOUR HANDS,
MONEY WILL
FLOW IN AS
A MATTER OF
COURSE.



SIMPLY,
WE'RE LOOKING
AWAY OUR
SECRET.



FOR THAT,
IT'S MORE CONVENIENT
TO KEEP NINA HERE
RATHER THAN AT
THE HOSPITAL.



HOWEVER,

WHAT
SHOULD WE DO
IF SOMEONE IS
LOOKING FOR THE
PRINCESS AND
GUTS THROUGH
THE THORNS?

IN OTHER
WORDS...

YOU COULD
SAY WE ARE
THE EVIL FAIRIES
WHO ARE HIDING
THE PRINCESS IN
THE FORTRESS
OF THORNS.



WHAT'RE
YOU
SAYING?



THAT'S
WHAT I
THOUGHT

AND SO,
I'VE FOUND
SOMETHING
THAT COULD
PROVE
USEFUL.

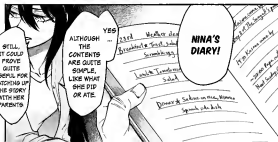
I DID,
MANY TIMES!
I CAN'T KEEP
DOING THAT
ANYMORE.

IT'S SEEM
SUSPICIOUS...

DID
YOU NOT
TURN
THEM
DOWN?



SOMETHING
USEFUL?



STILL,
IT COULD
PROVE
QUITE
USEFUL FOR
MATCHING UP
THE STORY
WITH HER
PARENTS

ALTHOUGH
THE
CONTENTS
ARE QUITE
SIMPLE,
LIKE WHAT
SHE DID
OR ATE.

YES

**NINA'S
DIARY!**

23rd Mother day
Breakfast + Food +
Something
Lunch + Dinner
School

Dinner + School in the morning
Spent the day

24th Mother day
Spent the day with
Nina's parents
Nina's diary
Nina's diary

CAN I REALLY
PULL OFF AN
ACT THAT
SURPASSES
THE BOND
BETWEEN
PARENT AND
CHILD...?

WILL THEY
FALL FOR IT
THOUGH?



SORRY
FOR
COMING
HERE
WHEN
YOU'RE
BUSY.

NIHA!

NO
WORRIES!
COME ON
IN!



PAPA!
MAMA!

IT'S
BEEN A
WHILE!





GO
AHEAD
AND
HAVE A
SEAT.
I'LL
GO MAKE
SOME
TEA.

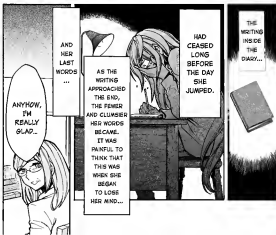
ISN'T
IT?

YOU
HAVE A
NICE
ROOM
HERE.

WOW,
THIS PLACE
IS BIGGER THAN
I'D IMAGINED,
AND TIDY.

THANKS TO THE
DIARY, I SOMEWHAT
HAVE A GRASP OF
WHAT PASSED.

IT'S
ALRIGHT
...



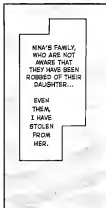
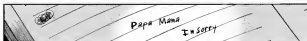
ANYHOW,
I'M
REALLY
GLAD...

AND
HER
LAST
WORDS
...

AS THE
WRITING
APPROACHED
THE END,
THE FEMER
AND CLUMSIER
HER WORDS
BECAME.
IT WAS
PAINFUL TO
THINK THAT
THIS WAS
WHEN SHE
BEGAN
TO LOSE
HER MIND...

HAD
CEASED
LONG
BEFORE
THE DAY
SHE
JUMPED.

THE
WRITING
INSIDE
THE
DIARY...



SO KIND,
AND WARM.



THEY ARE
VERY
GOOD
PEOPLE.

BUT... THIS IS
WHY I MUST
CONTINUE MY
DECEPTION.



I WONDER IF THIS
IS HOW NORMAL
FAMILIES ARE...
THEY FEEL SO
PRECIOUS, LIKE
TREASURE THAT I
WILL NEVER OBTAIN.

Swish



THIS IS
A LITTLE
EMBARRASSING...

LOOK, THIS
PHOTO WAS
TAKEN
DURING
"THE
SEAGULL".
ISN'T IT
NICE?



DON'T WORRY
ABOUT
HELPING ME
OUT, JUST
KEEP PAPA
COMPANY.



T-THANK
YOU

ARE
WE
IT'S
FINE





AND
RE-
ENACT
THEM
PER-
FECT-
LY.

THE
WAY
SHE
SPOKE,

HER
HABITS,

I MUST
RECALL
NINA'S
ACT-
IONS,

ONCE
AGAIN

I
NEED
TO
PULL
MYSELF
TOGETH-
ER.



I MUST
NOT LET
HER FEEL
SAD/ NOT
EVEN THE
SLIGHTEST
BIT OF
ANXIETY
SHOULD...

IF
THIS KIND-
HEARTED
MOTHER
FINDS OUT
THE TRUTH
BEHIND THAT
DOOR...



A
TANZAWA
NINA WHO
IS EVEN
MORE REAL
THAN
TANZAWA
NINA!

I ABSO-
LUTELY
CANNOT BE
DISCON-
FIRMED...







SHE IS
HERE
ONCE A
MONTH,
WITHOUT
FAIL.

SINCE
IT'S NOT
POSSIBLE
TO TURN
HER DOWN
EVERY
TIME,

FOR SOME
REASON,
BEGAN TO
DROP BY
FREQUENTLY.

SINCE
THEN,
NINA'S
MOTHER



IF MY
MOTHER
WAS STILL
ALIVE...
WOULD
SHE BE
STANDING
THERE
INSTEAD?



YES! I
LOVE
EVERY-
THING YOU
MAKE!



YOU
LIKED
STEW,
RIGHT?

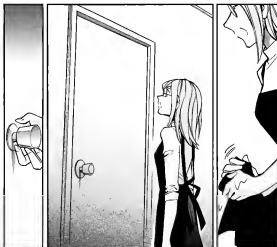
HOWEVER,
BECAUSE
SHE IS
ALWAYS
SO KIND

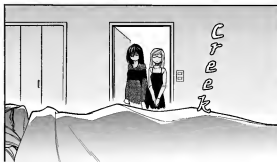


OH.
I HAVE TO
TAKE THIS
CALL.

GOODBYE

I HAVE
INADVERT-
ENTLY
BECOME
SPOILT
BY HER
KINDNESS.









I
COULDN'T
BRING
MYSELF
TO SAY
ANYTHING
BECAUSE
I DIDN'T
WANT YOU
TO WORRY.

I'M
SORRY
FOR
HIDING
THIS
FROM
YOU.

NONA
...

YOU SEE,
TO ME,
SHE WAS
NOT JUST A
MANAGER.
SHE WAS,
AND STILL
IS, MY
FRIEND.

SO
THAT'S
HOW IT
IS...



WHAT
MAKES
YOU
THINK
THAT?

HER
MOTHER IS
SUSPICIOUS
OF YOU



EVEN SO,
PEOPLE
WON'T
NORMALLY
THINK
SOMETHING
LIKE

"MY
DAUGHTER
HAS BEEN
REPLACED
BY SOME-
BODY ELSE",
YOU KNOW...

THAT'S
TRUE,
STILL...



WHEN SHE
ALMOST OPENED
THE DOOR TO
NINA'S ROOM,
I ACCIDENTALLY
RAISED MY
VOICE.

THAT'S
PROBABLY
WHY...



HMM...



IT'S PROBABLY
MORE UNSETTLING
SEEING SUBTLE
DIFFERENCES
IN PEOPLE YOU
THOUGHT YOU
KNEW SO WELL.



OH
WELL,

I SUPPOSE
COMPARED TO
APPARENT
DIFFERENCES,

ALRIGHT,
IF SHE BECOMES
MORE SUSPICIOUS,
THEN CONTACT ME
IMMEDIATELY.

YES

ONLY THE
MOTHER IS
SUSPICIOUS
OF YOU

I, THEN...
HAD THE
FEELING
THAT I
WOULD NOT
BE ABLE TO
OPPOSE
FATE.

FROM
HABUTA
KINGO'S
SMILE,

A
DREADFUL
FOREBODING
CREPT UP
WITHIN MY
CHEST.

Shivers

I'll do
some-
thing
about
it.

IN ANY
CASE, YOU
SHOULD
FOCUS ON
'SALOME.'

"SALO-
ME"...

END OF CHAPTER 22